

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph on page 3, lines 12-13 with the following paragraph:

C1 Figure 3 is a graph showing the production of *myo*-inositol (solid bars) and *myo*-inositol-1-phosphate (open bars) in comparison to cell dry weight (filled circles).

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 6, line 14 with the following paragraph:

In another embodiment, the recombinant *E. coli*, designated JWF1, comprises a plasmid

C2 carrying an *INO1* gene insert, an *iolG* gene insert, and a *serA* gene insert. This recombinant microbe is capable of converting glucose to *myo*-2-inosose. In a preferred embodiment, the recombinant *E. coli* comprises plasmid pAD2.28A carrying an *INO1* gene insert, an *iolG* gene insert and a *serA* gene insert. Examples of these recombinant microbes, *E. coli* JWF1/pAD1.88A and JWF1/pAD2.28A, are described in Specific Examples 1 and 4, respectively, and have been deposited with the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC), ~~12301 Parklawn Drive, Rockville, Maryland 20582~~ 10801 University Boulevard, Manassas, VA 20110-2209, under the terms of the Budapest Treaty, and accorded the ATCC designation numbers 207153 and 207154, respectively. The deposit will be maintained in the ATCC depository, which is a public depository, for a period of 30 years, or 5 years after the most recent request, or for the effective life of a patent, whichever is longer, and will be replaced if the deposit becomes depleted or non-viable during that period. Samples of the deposit will become available to the public and all restrictions imposed on access to the deposit will be removed upon grant of a patent on this application.